



NEWS RELEASE

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Vehicular Manslaughter Charges Filed for Fatal PCH Head-On Collision in Torrance

A Rancho Palos Verdes man was charged today with the death of a 19-year-old man and a 20-year-old woman killed when his vehicle crashed head-on with theirs on Pacific Coast Highway earlier this year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Alexander Bott said David Scott Pedersen (dob 10/15/86) faces two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and one count of driving under the influence of a drug causing injury in case YA092592.

Pedersen pleaded not guilty today and is due back on July 28 in Department 4 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Torrance Branch.

On Jan. 6, Pedersen's Honda Accord veered from the southbound lanes on the 3400 block of PCH colliding head-on with the victims travelling northbound in a Toyota Corolla, the prosecutor said. Joseph Labori-Romero and Vanessa Carrisoza-Diaz were both killed in the crash, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 12 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Torrance Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.